

2228
72

The
History
of



Riverside



and

South Danville

Northumberland Co., Pa.

1906

Printed at the
DANVILLE INTELLIGENCER
PRINTING OFFICE
1906

Ogden Hoffman Ostrander

History
of
Riverside
and
South Danville

Northumberland Co., Pa.

1906



F159
.R6208
copy 2.

...Preface...

I NSPIRED with the thought that the more important events which have taken place on the "south side" of the river within the memory of the writer during the past forty years, should be made a matter of record, the author has been prompted to write a history of RIVERSIDE AND SOUTH DANVILLE for the benefit and information of the present and future residents. This historical sketch has been published in the hope that it might serve an useful purpose and prove of interest and value to friends and fellow citizens.

OGDEN H. OSTRANDER.

Riverside, Pa., April 14th, 1906.



Gift
Author
(Person)

THE FIRST SETTLERS.

AS early as the year 1756 the part of Pennsylvania bordering the upper branches of the Susquehanna River was an unbroken wilderness. Here and there might have been found the rude home of a pioneer. The nearest settlement on the west was Shamokintown, ten miles down the river, at the junction of the two branches, where Sunbury now stands, and as many miles above, that of Catawissa. King George the Third had built Fort Augusta at the former place to protect the settlers against Indian incursions. About half way up the N. E. branch of the river in 1772, the Montgomery, Sechler, Maus, Frazer and a few other families had taken up lands from the proprietaries Penn, and formed what was in that day known as "Montgomery's Settlement," where a boat landing was constructed on the north bank of the stream, about the year 1790. Gen. Daniel Montgomery laid out the town of Danville, opened a store and built a grist mill and woolen factory. The construction by the Commonwealth in 1829, of a canal between Northumberland and Scranton, brought an influx of population to this section, and by a map of Danville dated 1832 there are shown to be seventy-five buildings and 600 residents. Stage coaches from Northumberland to Danville and thence to Pottsville made daily trips as early as the year 1804 and continued for fifty years. The river at that time was crossed by a ferry and up to 1828, when the first bridge was erected. Most of the land on both sides of the stream from Mahoning creek to Toby run on the north side and

Kipps run to Logan run on the south side were taken up under warrants from the proprietaries in 1769. On the "south side," as late as 1790, but few tracts were occupied by settlers. Of 2000 acres or more, some 1200 were owned by Jacob Gearhart, who came with his family from the state of New Jersey in the year 1782. He built a log house on the rising ground near the river, and established the first ferry across the Susquehanna at this point. In 1790 a public road leading from Sunbury to Gearhart's Ferry, was laid out and in 1804 a turnpike road was constructed to Pottsville, forty miles over the mountains. The Carr, Boyd and Depew families owned tracts adjoining Jacob Gearhart lands.



DANVILLE.

IN 1832 the principal part of Danville, occupied by dwellings, laid between Sechler's run and the river, Factory and Church streets. The existence of iron ores and limestone with coal, a few miles away, about the year 1844, attracted capitalists, who, through Thomas Chambers purchased 1500 acres from the Montgomery estate. Several furnaces for smelting these ores were erected and a rolling mill built. Several hundred skilled workers in iron were brought from England and Wales, together with their families. This inflow of people caused the laying out of Montgomery, Yorks and Sidler lands north of the canal and greatly enlarged the town. The population in 1850 was 3300 ; 1860, 6580 ; 1870, 8129. In 1853 the first railroad was constructed through Danville, being an extension of the Catawissa, Williamsport and Erie from Rupert to Williamsport, which was followed in 1859 by an extension of the Lackawanna and Bloomsburg R. R. from Rupert to Northumberland. At the close of the Civil War there was an abundance of paper money and unlimited credit. It was at this time attention was drawn to the need of more dwelling houses and a greater scope of ground to build upon. It was the agitation of this thought that led to the laying out of town lots on the south side of the river. Land association soon followed, the public availed themselves of this opportunity to purchase sites for homes, and from this time (1869) the history of Riverside and South Danville may be said to commence. About the year 1826 a bridge company was chartered by the state legislature to span the river, and under its provisions a bridge of the "Burr arch truss" type was constructed in 1828. This structure withstood the freshets until 1875, when on March 17th it was carried away on a 26 foot flood. The same year a new wooden bridge of the "Howe truss" pattern was erected on the

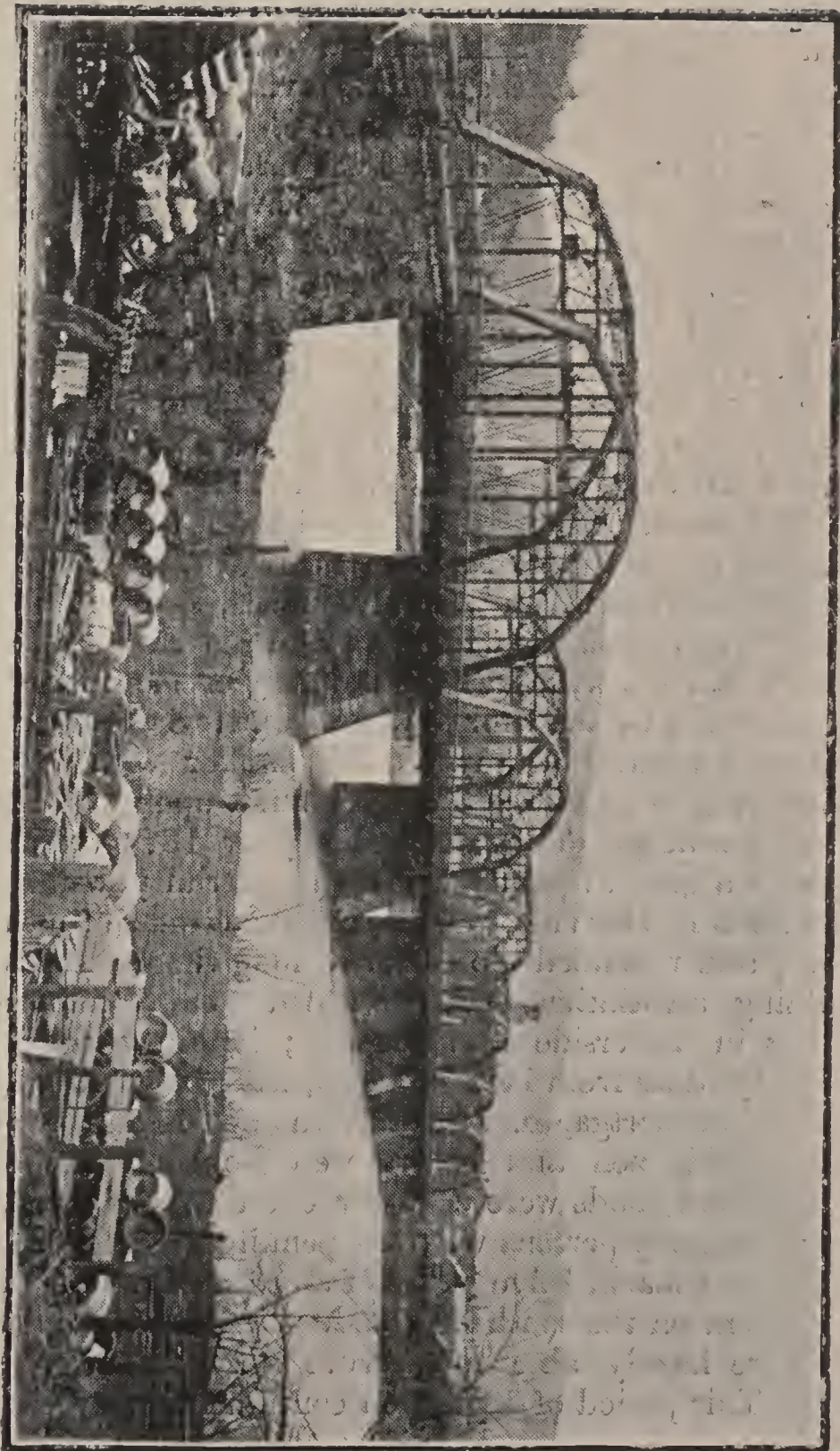
piers raised four feet higher than the old ones. Under an act of assembly permitting counties to purchase highway bridges, and make them free to the public travel, this bridge became the property of Montour and Northumberland counties in the year 1897 and so continued until 1904, when a great ice freshet gorged and dammed up the river for many miles, destroying by a 29 foot rise the superstructure and most of the piers. This bridge was replaced by a fine steel structure on new abutments and piers, the cost of which 141,000 dollars was borne by the Commonwealth. In 1904 Danville repaired Mill street from the bridge to Centre street with vitrified brick, setting the curb for a 12 feet side pavement along the entire length of 1800 feet. Added to the improvement the municipality has constructed a superior "Sewer System" and installed a first-class electric light plant, which, with the public water works has placed Danville in the front rank of Pennsylvania towns. The population now is nearly 9000.



RIVERSIDE.

A SHORT time prior to the location of the rail road on the southern bank of the Susquehanna, between Sunbury and Wilkes-Barre, the desirability of securing land on the opposite side of the river from Danville attracted the attention of some Danville parties, who finally formed a syndicate, among whom were E. W. Conklin, F. C. Derr, John W. Von Nieda, O. H. Ostrander and others. The land selected for building sites embraced ten acres, situate west of the river bridge and laying between the river and road leading to Sunbury. The price offered the heirs of Harman Gearhart estate for this piece of ground was ten thousand dollars but was not accepted; almost two years afterwards, Thomas Beaver Dan Morgan, I. H. Torrence and Benj. G. Welch, purchased a part of the Daniel Cameron farm adjoining the Herman Gearhart tract, and which contained 100 acres between the river and Sunbury road, one half mile west from the river bridge. The land was laid out in wide avenues and streets, with lots 50 by 184 feet. This land was then owned by Wm. Hancock who had purchased same from Wm. D. Gearhart and wife. O. H. Ostrander was appointed Surveyor and Sales agent for the Land Association; at this time business in Danville was in a very prosperous condition, labor in demand and wages high. Lots were rapidly sold to working men and others and 20 buildings were built in the years 1869 and 1870. The first dwelling was erected on Avenue D, near First street by William Spotts May 1869 and occupied the same year. The winter of 69-70 was mild and building operations were not seriously interfered with—the sounds of hammer and saw were everywhere heard and many loads of stone and lumber were handled from day to day. Within the year many houses were erected and the face of the ground commenced to assume the appearance of a new

town. In 1870, Thomas Beaver and Dan Morgan sold their interest in unsold lots to O. H. Ostrander. At the close of the year 1871, 40 buildings had been constructed most of which were immediately occupied; at this period, a charter was obtained—incorporating the village into a borough. This year a fine two story brick school house was erected and two public schools were established; one room was also used for religious services which prior thereto had been held in a large barn. The great demand for town lots and the high prices paid, induced William Faux whose farm lay on the west side of the new town to lay out 30 acres of his land north of the Sunbury road in 1869 most of which was immediately purchased by William K. Holloway, William Hancock, Wm. C. Young, Geo. B. Brown, Daniel Leiby, Perry Deen and John Roth. Daniel Leiby at once erected a commodious house and a large barn, and John Roth a dwelling; both parties moving in with their families. An additional piece of ground, west of the "Faux farm" containing 12 acres, extending from the Sunbury road to the railroad at this time Leiby purchased from Samuel Gulick. In 1870 the heirs of Herman Gearhart estate owning land on the east of the village laid out 50 acres bounded on the south by the Sunbury road, north by the river, and east by the road leading to the river bridge. The survey was made by Geo. W. West, under the direction of William F. Gearhart, acting for the heirs, who laid out the streets 50 feet in width, on lines paralalled with the Sunbury road, the lots being made 50 by 150 feet. This arrangement was unwise as the result was to seriously conflict with the alignment of streets in Riverside, producing unnecessary offsets and angles. The Gearhart layout was called South Danville. A goodly number of lots was sold on this section and a number of houses were erected. A one story brick building was built by the Gearhart School District for the accommodation of the settlers in that part of the district. The same



SOUTH SIDE VIEW OF THE NEW RIVER BRIDGE

year, a Land Association consisting of B. G. Welch, Orleans Longacre, Perry Deen and Wm. C. Johnston purchased the C. P. Gearhart farm, laying south of the Sunbury road, fronting South Danville, 70 acres at 250 dollars per acre and divided the same into town lots conforming strictly to the general plan of Riverside. Many sales were also made in this section and several houses put up about the same time (1871). Benj. G. Welch and others also bought 60 acres of the VanNorstran farm, adjoining the C. P. Gearhart land on the west and south of the road leading to Sunbury, laying out the same to conform unto the Riverside plat. Several houses were put up in this part of the town during the year 1871. In 1872 a substantial brick church edifice 30 by 60 feet with gothic windows and a belfry was built through the efforts of the citizens, most of whom were Methodists, and religious services were instituted under a pastorate call. The years 1872 and 1873 witnessed the building of more houses and a continuing demand for town lots until September 1873, when the failure of Jay Cooke, banker with liabilities amounting to \$4,000,000 dollars burst upon the country, causing widespread disaster. The year 1874 was ushered in with a general paralysis in all industrial pursuits. The iron mills in Danville, employing thousands of men shut down, and remained closed for a long time. Loans from building associations had helped to build most of the houses in Riverside and vicinity; inability to pay the monthly dues from lack of work, soon brought the foreclosure of mortgages. Most of the houses and properties of working men and others were sold by the sheriff. Houses and lands were sold for one third of what they cost and many persons were left penniless. The prosperity which had marked five years of advancement for the new settlement on the south side, suddenly ceased and the people were hardly able to procure the bare necessities of life. This period of depression continued for several years,

when business began slowly to revive, and reawaken the spirit of progress and improvement. In 1876 the M. E. church of Riverside was sold at sheriffs sale to Christ P. E. church of Danville and consecrated as a chapel. As times improved the churchless members of the M. E. denomination determined to build for themselves a new house of worship. A lot of ground was donated by the heirs of Harmon Gearhart estate, and sufficient funds subscribed that in 1878 they found themselves the owners of a new brick edifice located in South Danville, a square away from the former one. About this time many farmers retired from their farms and purchased or built homes in Riverside and South Danville, bringing in new energy and fresh capital. Many of those who had lost their homes were enabled to repurchase them at lower values, population increased, the public debt was paid off and the south side commenced to grow again until at this time (1906) there are 160 buildings and a thriving community of more than a thousand souls. What the future may bring, can only be a conjecture, but perhaps a century hence may witness, outspread upon the plain a city of larger population, more beautiful homes, greater industries and more extensive civic improvements than the older settlement on the opposite shore.





1
ST. PETER'S M. E. CHURCH.

HOUSES ERECTED.

1869—1874.

| Name. | Location. | Section. | Year. |
|----------------------|-----------|----------|--------|
| William Spotts, | Avenue D | 4 | 1869 |
| Edward Crompton, | " E | 33 | 1869 |
| O. H. Ostrander, | " E | 32 | 1870 |
| Adam Chapman, | " E | 5 | 1870 |
| J. M. Shuman, | " F | 30 | 1870 |
| W. M. Hoagland, | " F | 30 | 1870 |
| Jacob Snyder, | " F | 11 | 1870 |
| Amelius Motzenbocher | " C | 4 | 1870 |
| Oliver Hendrickson, | " E | 11 | 1870 |
| Theodore Mentzer, | " D | 10 | 1870 |
| Geo. W. Roat, | " E | 11 | 1870 |
| Jacob W. Scott, | " E | 10 | 1870-1 |
| Andrew Kapp, | " F | 25 | 1870 |
| Amos F. Welker, | " F | 26 | 1870 |
| Lewis Morgan, | " F | 26 | 1870 |
| Benj. G. Welch, | " F | 34 | 1870 |
| Joel S. Bailey, | " F | 34 | 1870 |
| R. P. Laird, | " E | 29 | 1870 |
| Dennis Murphy, | " C | 9 | 1870 |
| L. G. Hartman, | " D | 9 | 1871 |
| Sam'l E. Snyder, | " F | 18 | 1871 |
| Orleans Longacre, | " D | 28 | 1871 |
| Thos. C. Fowler, | " F | 26 | 1871 |
| William Yeager, | " F | 26 | 1871 |
| Daniel Eckroth, | " D | 19 | 1871 |
| Herman Shifner, | " G | | 1871 |
| Wm. A. Miller, | " E | 24 | 1871 |
| William Minier, | " E | 16 | 1871 |
| William Lynn, | " E | 16 | 1871 |
| Daniel Linn, | " E | 16 | 1871 |
| Henry Yeager, | " E | 16 | 1871 |

| | | | | |
|----------------------|--------------|---|---------------|------|
| John Keim, | “ | E | 20 | 1871 |
| Henry Johnson, | “ | E | 20 | 1871 |
| Peter Fenstermacher, | “ | F | 33 | 1871 |
| Samuel D. Bucher, | “ | E | 24 | 1871 |
| Chas. H. Gable, | “ | C | 3 | 1871 |
| Henry Z. Freehafer, | “ | B | 3 | 1871 |
| John Dodson, | “ | B | 3 | 1871 |
| Jacob Eberly, | “ | A | 1 | 1871 |
| Daniel Leiby, | “ | A | Faux Addition | 1871 |
| John Roth, | Avenue | C | Faux Addition | 1871 |
| Rev. E. N. Lightner, | “ | E | 28 | 1871 |
| Daniel Huber, | “ | F | 18 | 1871 |
| David Huber, | “ | F | 18 | 1871 |
| Francis J. Riffel, | “ | E | 11 | 1872 |
| Frank Lewis, | “ | D | 9 | 1872 |
| William Livezey, | “ | E | 29 | 1872 |
| William Livezey, | “ | E | 24 | 1872 |
| Peter M. Yocum, | “ | E | 25 | 1872 |
| John Cuthbert, | “ | G | 52 | 1872 |
| C. P. Gearhart, | “ | H | 39 | 1872 |
| John T. McCloughan, | “ | G | 44 | 1872 |
| William Krigbaum, | “ | F | 25 | 1872 |
| Lewis Hoffman, | “ | F | 33 | 1872 |
| James M. Coulter, | “ | E | 29 | 1872 |
| John K. Fowler, | “ | C | 4 | 1872 |
| Gideon Mills, | “ | C | 3 | 1872 |
| Frank Leiby | Sunbury Road | | Faux Addition | 1872 |
| Mont'y Artley, | Avenue | D | 32 | 1872 |
| Joseph L. Shannon, | “ | D | | 1872 |
| Edward Shepperson, | “ | D | | 1872 |
| Reuben Riegel, | “ | F | | 1872 |
| Andrew Vought, | “ | G | | 1872 |
| Jeremiah M. John, | “ | E | 25 | 1873 |
| Sam'l K. Hile, | “ | E | 21 | 1873 |
| Hon. H. M. Hinckley, | “ | G | 39 | 1873 |
| Jane Livezey, | “ | E | 24 | 1873 |

| | | | | |
|---------------------|---|---|----|------|
| Richard Wilson, | “ | E | 28 | 1873 |
| Rev. Gideon H. Day, | “ | F | 21 | 1874 |
| John S. Bird, | “ | F | 25 | 1874 |

(71 HOUSES) 1874—1906

| | | | |
|---------------------|-----------------|---|----|
| David Unger, | Snydertown Road | | |
| Burns Campbell, | Avenue H | | |
| William Campbell, | “ | H | |
| George Arms, | “ | H | |
| Daniel Moll, | “ | G | |
| Ulam Hoffman, | “ | G | |
| M. E. C'h Parsonage | “ | G | |
| Peter F. Startzell, | “ | H | |
| Richard Fogle, | “ | F | 11 |

1874—1906.

| | | | | |
|----------------------|----------|---|----|--------------|
| Wm. Hendrickson, | Avenue E | | 4 | |
| Band Room, | “ | | | |
| DeWitt's Drug Store, | “ | H | | Sunbury Road |
| Arthur Jones, | “ | G | | |
| Daniel Gottshall, | “ | G | | |
| Wesley Morrall, | “ | G | | |
| Eli Hoover | “ | F | 30 | |
| Elmer E. Fowler, | “ | F | 29 | |
| Mark W. Hess, | “ | F | 29 | |
| P. O. S. of A. Hall, | “ | F | | |
| Daniel Farley, | “ | E | | |
| Frank Wilson, | “ | E | | |
| Geo. B. Ostrander, | “ | D | 27 | 1903 |
| Annie Campbell, | “ | E | 32 | |
| Jos. L. Shannon, | “ | D | 25 | |
| O. H. Ostrander, | | | | |
| “Brown Stone” | “ | D | 31 | 1875 |
| (25 HOUSES) | | | | |

FIRST METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH.

NOW GRACE P. E. GHURGH.

Public services of a religious character were first held in a barn that stood on the north side of the Sunbury road between Avenue D. E. this was in the year 1870, shortly after the new town was started. A Sunday school was instituted at the same time by Rev. B. G. Welch; which were continued until the erection of the school building on Avenue E, when a transfer was made to that structure where services were kept up until August 1872. Just prior to this four lots of ground at the corner of Avenue F and Sixth street were purchased by the church people and an effort made to procure funds for a building; ground was broken for the foundation in the spring of 1872. A large brick edifice with heltry was completed and dedicated the following summer at a cost including lots of nearly 8000 dollars, of this 5500 dollars were collected, leaving a debt of 2500 dollars, which existed until the business panic of 1874 swept over the country. The congregation struggled along until 1877, when the church property was sold at sheriff's sale to Christ P. E. church of Danville, and was converted into a chapel, when the original corner stone and contents were removed and a new one substituted under the name of Grace P. E. Chapel. Since that time services by the Episcopal denomination have been periodical-ly observed every year. Rev. Haughton is the present rector in charge.



PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

The rapid development of the new town made it necessary to provide suitable accommodations for educational purposes. A contract was entered into with Ira T. Clement of Sunbury to erect a 2 story brick structure 40 by 40 feet on ground at corner of Avenue E and Fourth street. The building was completed and ready for occupancy, June 1871 soon after the incorporation of the town into a borough. The school district rented the building which had been provided by O. H. Ostrander at a cost of 492½ dollars, with the understanding that as soon as the district was authorized by an act of assembly to issue bonds the property was to be transferred to them for the same price. This was accomplished in 1873 and Mr. Ostrander relieved of the burden he had carried for three years. The bonds were issued at six per cent. interest and though the times were hard, the interest was promptly met and the principal paid off within a period of ten years. A hot-water system of heating was installed in 1897 at a cost of 600 dollars which has given entire satisfaction. The building has been a source of civic pride to the citizens of Riverside, as well as a comfortable home for the school children.

LIST OF TEACHERS :

1872—1906.

1872
Mary Wilkes
1873
C. P. Gearhart
1874
Mary Wilkes
1875

1884
Maggie Gulick
R. P. Laird
1885
Rebecca Shannon
Jas. B. Douglas
1886

Mary Wilkes
 A. M. Campbell
 1876
 Mary Wilkes
 Maggie Madden
 1877
 Amanda Gearhart
 Maggie Madden
 1878
 Amanda Gearhart
 James C. Russel
 1879
 Amanda Gearhart
 Jas. B. McClougan
 1880
 Libbie Guss
 W. L. Sidler
 1881
 Alice Gearhart
 L. Krum
 1882
 F. M. Gotwals
 B. L. Diehl
 1883
 B. P. Ryan
 R. P. Laird
 1895
 Sophia Shannon
 Jas. B. Douglass
 1897
 Alice Gearhart
 Sophia Shannon
 1899
 Alice Gearhart
 Thos. L. Murphy
 1901

Rebecca Shannon
 R. P. Laird
 1887
 Rebecca Shannon
 R. P. Laird
 1888
 Mary Curry
 Jas. B. Douglass
 1889
 Alice Gearhart
 R. P. Laird
 1890
 Hattie Kimbel
 Jas. B. Douglass
 1891
 Alice Gearhart
 Jas. B. Douglass
 1892
 Alice Gearhart
 Jas. B. Douglass
 1893
 Sophia Shannon
 H. R. Brubacker
 1894
 Sophia Shannon
 Jas. B. Douglass
 1896
 Sophia Shannon
 Wilbur Pennypacker
 1898
 Alice Gearhart
 Thos. L. Murphy
 1900
 Alice Gearhart
 E. W. Coxe
 1902

Mrs. E. W. Young
Steward S. Smith
1903

Mrs. E. W. Young
Dan'l J. Snyder

Blanche Riffle
Mrs. E. W. Young
1904

Mrs. E. W. Young
Dan'l J. Snyder

1905
Mrs. E. W. Young
Bertha Surver



THE POST OFFICE.

The first postmaster was Benjamin Welch who kept the office in a building located on the Welch premises at the east end of Sixth street where it remained from 1871-5 when Francis G. VanNorstran was appointed, who purchased the building and removed it to the south side of the Sunbury road, near his residence. The office continued there until 1879, when D. R. Eckman, was appointed P. M. and assumed charge of postal affairs until the year 1887. Geo. D. Gearhart, his clerk succeeded him, keeping the office in the same building until 1891, when J. Hudson Kase was appointed, who removed the office to his store on Sunbury Road, near river bridge where it remained until 1895. From 1895-99 D. R. Eckman was P. M., when C. S. Smith who kept the store formerly occupied by D. R. Eckman became postmaster and who has continued such until the present time. The business has increased since 1871 when it yielded a revenue of 100 dollars per annum, until now the postmaster from postal and money order commission realizes an income exceeding 300 dollars a year.

NEWSPAPERS.

| | | |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|----------|
| The Riverside published by | B. G. Welch, & Co | 1871-'73 |
| The Star | “ “ Owen Fowler, | 1873-'77 |
| The Advocate | “ “ Geo. Edward Roat, | 1897-'03 |
| The Star | “ “ H. J. Bird, | 1903-'06 |



STORES.

| | |
|--|---------|
| Wm. Livezey, Sunbury Road, Avenue E | 1872-4 |
| Joel Linn, “ “ “ “ | 1874-5 |
| Lees & Bro. Avenue E and Fourth St., | 1874-6 |
| Mrs. Alex. J. Sober, Avenue F and Fifth St., | 1876-7 |
| James Mills, Avenue E and Fourth St., | 1877-96 |
| Wm. W. Kimbel, Avenue E and Fifth St., | 1898-06 |



REAL ESTATE AGENCY.

O. H. OSTRANDER, C. E. offices on Sixth street near Avenue D from 1871—1901 when he was succeeded by his son, GEO. B. OSTRANDER, office 512 Avenue D near Fifth street.



SUNBURY, HAZLETON & WILKES-BARRE R. R.

This railroad was surveyed and located through Riverside in 1868 and the right of way was donated to the company by the Land Association. The President and ruling spirit of the enterprise was Simon P. Kase, of Danville, whose skill and energy constructed the road between Sunbury and Danville and completed the same to Hazleton and Wilkes-Barre in 1870. This franchise was afterwards leased to the Penna. R. R. Co., by whom it is now operated. Wm. L. Clark has been in charge of the South Danville Station, for the past 15 years.



DANVILLE AND RIVERSIDE R. R.

In 1873 a charter was obtained by Benj. G. Welch and others. The line was surveyed and staked out the same year by O. H. Ostrander C. E. and later on some grading and work were made by the company, but the depression at this period interfered with further progress and the enterprise remained dormant until 1904 when the Danville and Sunbury Electric Railway Co., became the owners of the charter, with its valuable rights and privileges.



DANVILLE AND SHAMOKIN R. R.

B. G. Welch and others, procured a charter for a railroad between Danville and Shamokin in the year 1880. The survey and estimates were made by O. H. Ostrander C. E. The line commenced at the Phila. and Reading R. Station in Danville, thence passing eastward along the high ground back of the National Iron Company's fur-

naces, crossing overhead the D. L. & W. R. R., and Penna Canal to the river, thence across the same, south to Boyd's woods, over the D. H. & W. R. R. thence eastward to Logan Run, up the same to Shamokin Hill by a 1600 ft. tunnel through the same along the southern flank of the ridge eastward to a point near Elysburg, thence southward to Little Mountain opposite Paxinos, thence eastward along the north side of Shamokin Creek to a point near to Weigh Scales on Sunbury and Shamokin R. R. crossing the same overhead to the side of the opposite Ridge, thence eastward to Shamokin near Cameron colliery a distance of 16 miles. The estimate of cost amounted to 815,000 dollars. This line was not constructed but the charter was sold to the Phila. & Reading R. R. Co., who show by their annual reports that the organization is being maintained.



DANVILLE AND SUNBURY ELECTRIC RY.

This company was chartered in 1904, and have laid out a line between Danville and Sunbury and secured a right of way thereto. The railway has been constructed between the Hospital for the Insane in Danville to DeWitt's Park in Riverside a distance of $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles, from which point the railroad will be continued to Sunbury a distance of 12 miles from Riverside, Chas. P. Hancock is Prest. and A. H. Woolley Sec'y.



SILVER CORNET BAND.

An organization of home talent in 1885 succeeded in raising funds for the purchase of instruments and uniforms

costing 1000 dollars: Chas. F. Stoes of Danville was Band Instructor. The first meetings were held in the school building; subsequently a lot adjoining was purchased and a one story 16x32 frame building erected. The band kept together for seven years; and became efficient players; their services were in frequent demand at home and away, but finally disbanded in 1892. The members of this band were Wm. T. Shepperson, leader, Chas. Riffle, R. B. Bird, Chas. S. Mills, M. F. Gulick, Frank Kramer, James Murphy, James Kramer, Wm. Murphy, Oscar Eberly, R. E. Shannon, Jos. S. Burd, Abram Oberdorf, Chas. B. VanNorstran, Martin Bird, Wm. Suter, Jesse L. Shannon, Heber DeWitt, Chas. Morrall, John Wolverton, Wm. Keim, Edward Hummer, Wm. W. Kimbel.



INDUSTRIAL PURSUITS.

VULCAN IRON WORKS: The building was erected by the National Iron Co., of Danville, in 1872, and leased by Wm. H. Law, mechanical engineer, who manufactured boilers, stacks, bridges and other sheet iron work until 1874 when he gave up the business, by reason of the depression in trade, throughout the country. During its business career the works, turned out many fine iron bridges, stacks, &c.

KEIM'S BRICK YARD: In 1871, John Keim commenced the manufacture of building brick, burning from, eight to ten kilns per annum. He continued in the trade for several years at his plant on Avenue A, adjoining Susquehanna Avenue, until the clay was exhausted, when the business was carried on in Danville. Mr. Keim has been engaged in the brick making business for 45 years.

CLEMENT'S LUMBER YARD: Was established by Ira T. Clemet of Sunbury in 1872 on Avenue E, adjoining railroad and continued to sell large quantities of building material until 1874, when business commenced to decline. The Yard was then closed.

YEAGER'S COAL YARD: Henry Yeager commenced selling Lehigh Coal from the Pardse Mines at Hazleton in 1873 and continued in the trade for several years. His Yard was situated on Avenue E, adjoining S. H. & W. R. R. He was also a contractor and builder and built many houses in Riverside and vicinity.

SHUMAN'S DAIRY: J. M. Shuman opened a dairy on Avenue F, near Sixth street in the year 1872, furnishing cream and milk to customers in Riverside and Danville. He also kept an Ice Cream Parlor. Mr. Shuman removed to Nebraska about the year 1882.

SAM'L BAILEY & Co: This company established a lumber yard at the corner of Avenue F and Fifth street in 1888, where they kept lumber of all kinds for many years. The firm consisted of Samuel Bailey and Wm. T. Shepperson, who dissolved partnership in 1904.

SHIFNER'S FILE FACTORY: Herman Shifner, a German mechanic and skillful file cutter was engaged at his trade on his premises Avenue G, above Eighth street from 1872 until his death in 1886, and was constantly employed by the Danville Stove and Manufacturing Co.



THE FLORISTS.

DAVID CLIFFE: Established a greenhouse on Avenue D, near Fifth street in 1870 carrying on a large and profitable business until he moved to Philadelphia in 1881. He was also a landscape gardener.

R. C. SHANNON: Operated a large greenhouse and a truck farm on Avenue D, near Ninth street from 1888, increasing the capacity and equipment until he died in 1900 from which period the business has been conducted by his widow.

R. B. BIRD: Has a greenhouse on his premises between Fifth and Sixth streets, Avenue E. He has been engaged in the business since 1886.



FIRE BRICK WORKS: Were established about the year 1897 the building formerly occupied by the Vulcan Iron Works, was purchased by Joseph S. Burd, Sam'l Bailey and Wm. T. Shepperson: Considerable capital was invested in brick machines, crushers, Wells &c., and

most of the product which was of superior quality was sold to the Reading Iron Company's Mills in Danville. The works suspended operations in 1899. The property was sold to F. Q. Hartman in 1906, the old buildings were removed and a brick building 53x120 feet erected for the manufacture of silk thread.



BAKERS.

CHAS. HARTMAN: Opened a bakery on Avenue D, near First street in 1895 and was operated until 1896 when he abandoned the business.

WM. C. PURSEL: Started a bakery between Fifth and Sixth streets, Avenue F. in 1904, where he still continues.

ARMES CABINET FACTORY: Was established in 1892 by Zachary T. Armes on his premises, Avenue E and Sixth street. It was equipped with an engine and planing machinery and was capable of turning out all kinds of wood work. It has remained unused since the death of the owner in 1901.



BUTCHERS.

JOSEPH L. SHANNON: Built a slaughterhouse on Torrence Lane near Tenth street, in 1872 and has been engaged in the business for many years. In 1894 a meat shop was opened in Danville on Mill street by Shannon & Co., and traded under that title until 1904, when Jesse L. Shannon assumed the proprietorship.

JOHN CONWAY: Erected a meat and sausage factory on his premises, Avenue E and Sixth street, in 1900 and equipped the same with an engine and other fixtures. His business is extended to Danville where he provides the principal hotels with the products of his factory.



SHOEMAKERS.

DANIEL FARLEY: With a shop on Avenue E near Third street.

L. G. HARTMAN: On Avenue D, near First street have served the public in their line of work since Riverside was first settled.



PHYSICIAN.

A. T. DEWITT, M. D: Commenced practice in this neighborhood in 1878, opening an office on Sunbury road, near Avenue H, which was afterwards moved to the lot on which he now resides, Avenue F, near Sixth street.



GULICK SAND CO.

This company since 1885 have been engaged in the sand business, shipping large quantities of superior moulding sand to stove factories and iron foundries throughout the state. Valuable beds of sand are found within the boundaries of Riverside and vicinity. The members of the company are M. F. Gulick and W. W. Gulick.

SPOTTS' ICE CO.

This trade is carried on by John Spotts and David Spotts whose storehouses are situate in Riverside and Gearhart township.



DEWITT'S PARK.

About the year 1896 Dr. A. T. DeWitt purchased 28 acres of land, partly in woods, at the southern terminus of Avenue E:—a section of the VanNostran farm. The Dr. concluded to turn this into a “pleasure resort” for the public; the under brush was cut out, old trees removed and the place, thoroughly under drained, wells were sunk, a fine large pavilion erected, a cook house, swings and all equipments that might add to the entertainment and comfort of visitors were made from time to time. A wide, first class driving and biele track around the grounds was also laid out, together with inside paths, reservoirs, a tennis and croquet lawn, and other attractions. In addition to these, a shooting range and base ball ground, with a commodious grandstand were established on the south side of the park proper. The place has become a very popular resort visited every season by thousands of pleasure seekers. Last year a “merry-go-round” was installed at a cost of over 2000 dollars, labor and expense have not been spared in making this one of the most delightful summer retreats in Pennsylvania. An electric railway now connects the Park with Danville, Bloomsburg and Berwick. An attractive feature of this place is the beautiful surrounding landscape scenery.

THE SOCIAL CLUB.

This association of young men was formed in 1898, for the purpose of self improvement and amusement. They assembled in the band room, adjoining the school building, which was comfortably fitted up and supplied with books and periodicals, passing their leisure hours in reading, conversation and games of amusement. They were governed by a constitution and by-laws, which were strictly enforced. The officers were a president, secretary and treasurer, elected annually. The club was disbanded in 1901.



PATRIOTIC ORDER SONS OF AMERICA

Washington Camp No. 567 was organized in 1900, and held their meetings on the upper floor of Armes' Cabinet Factory on Sixth street, until they occupied their new building, increasing in strength until the camp now numbers seventy-five members. In the year 1902, the ground was purchased on which the new hall is erected at the corner of Avenue F and Fifth street, and in 1904, adopted the plans and specifications for the new building. The foundation walls were constructed the same year, and the present edifice commenced in May, 1905, being completed within six months. The new hall is a substantial brick structure 28 by 50 feet in size, two stories high, with stone water table base, all lintels and sills of similar material, the roof covered with slate. A large furnace from the Danville Stove & Manufacturing company has been installed in the cellar, which supplies an ample volume of heat to every part. Each floor contains an assembly chamber, 26 by 34 feet, with additional rooms in the rear, 12 by 16 feet each. Electric light wires extend to every

room. This fine structure reflects great credit upon the members of the camp and in the coming years will stand both as a monument to their zeal, industry and thrift and a fitting memorial to the memory of the immortal Washington.



P. O. S. OF A. BUILDING.

BOROUGH OFFICERS.

An examination of the municipal records between the years 1871 and 1906, shows that the various offices during that period of time, were held by the following named citizens, viz:

BURGESSES.

Edward Crompton,
C. P. Gearhart,
David Unger,
Wm. Minier,
Jos. L. Shannon,
Caleb F. Persing,
Zachary T. Armes,
John Keim,
Wm. T. Shepperson,
John Conway,

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE.

F. G. Van Norstran,
Daniel Linn,
O. H. Ostrander,
C. P. Gearhart, Sr,
Jacob W. Scott,
Caleb F. Persing,
Zachary T. Armes,
Chas. P. Gearhart, Jr.

PRESIDENT OF SCHOOL BOARD.

C. P. Gearhart,
John Dodson,
Sam'l K. Hile,
Jas. M. Coulter,
Jno. T. McCloughan,
Jos. L. Shannon,
Dr. A. T. DeWitt,
Wm. Minier,
Dennis Murphy,
Elmer E. Fowler,
Wm. W. Kimbel.

ASSESSORS.

R. P. Laird,
C. P. Gearhart,
O. H. Ostrander,
Frank Lewis,
R. B. Bird.

TAX RECEIVERS.

Daniel Linn,
John T. McCloughan,
Peter Fenstermacher, 20 yrs,
Jos. L. Shannon.

POOR DIRECTORS.

Jos. L. Shannon,
O. H. Ostrander,
John T. McCloughan,
Jacob Berger,
T. W. Kimbel,

TREASURERS.

Daniel Leiby,
B. G. Welch,
John Roth,
James M. Coulter,
Sam'l K. Hile,
R. P. Laird,

John S. Bird,
Wm. B. Kimbel,
Geo. W. Roat,
Jos. S. Burd,
Zachary T. Armes,
Eli Hoover.

CONSTABLES.

Sam'l D. Bucher,
Peter Fenstermacher, 20 y's
Jacob Yeager.

STREET COMMISSIONER.

Edward Cuthbert,
Peter Fenstermacher 20 y's
P. F. Startzel.

BOROUGH ENGINEER.

O. H. Ostrander, 1871-1901.

SECRETARIES.

Paul M. Diver,
H. B. Crane,
J. M. John,
Orleans Longacre,
R. P. Laird,
Zachary T. Armes,

Jno. T. McCloughan,
O. H. Ostrander,
B. G. Welch,
Wm. Minier,
Elmer E. Fowler,
John M. Hinckley.



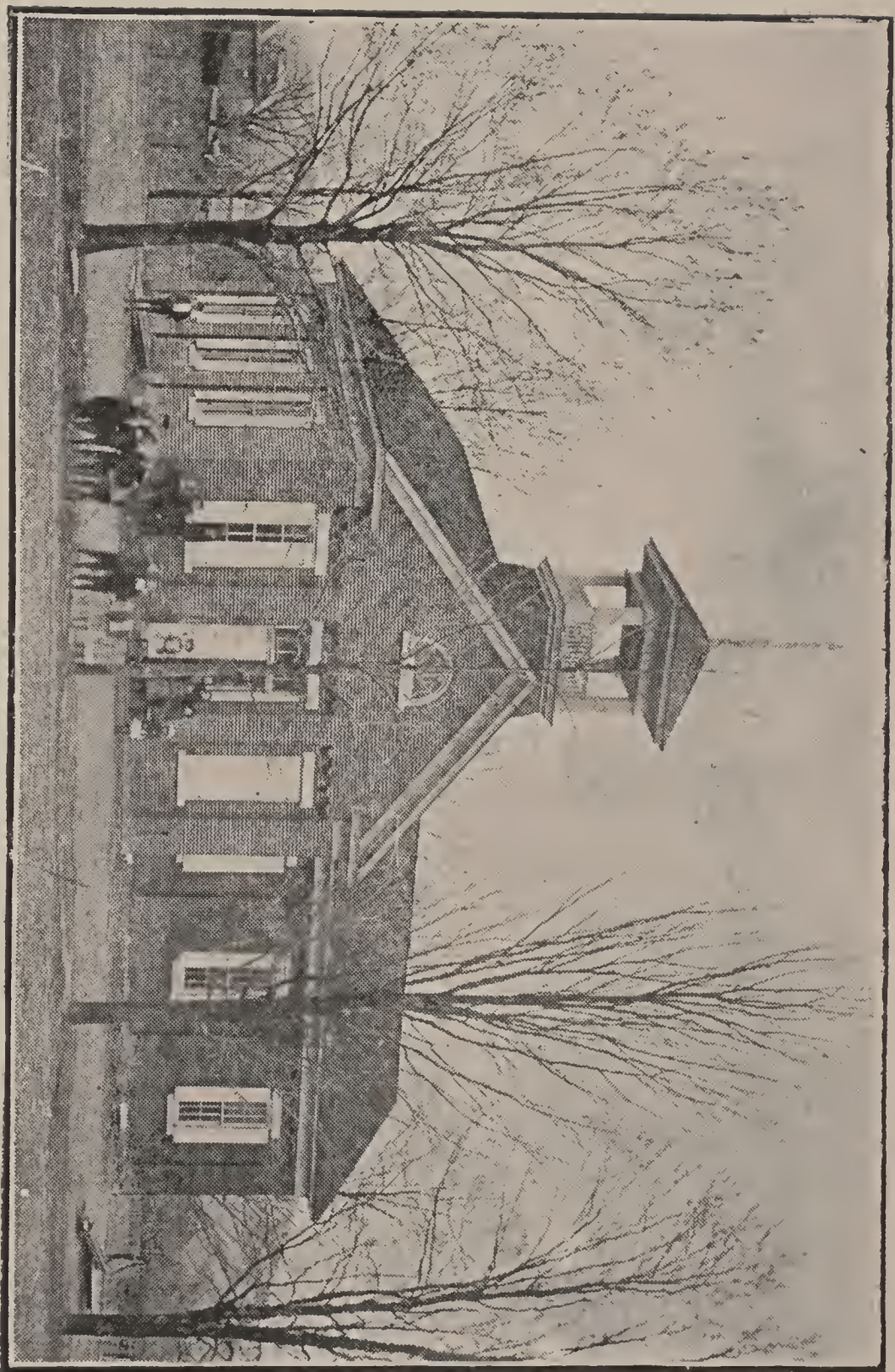
MOUNT VERNON CEMETERY.

This beautiful resting place of the dead containing one and a half acres, is situate in Gearhart township on Riverside Heights, at the head of Avenue G. It was laid out in 1828, about the time of the first burial, that of an infant. On this plot was erected the Methodist Episcopal meeting house a single story frame building 35 by 45 feet, the gift of Judge Jacob Gearhart and others. It was taken down by Rev. I. H. Torrence in 1885, and the timbers removed. Services were held by itinerant preachers on the Catawissa circuit for many years. In 1887 for want of a caretaker, the fences fell down and the place became neglected. The lot holders finally called a meeting, and appointed a new board of trustees, the members of the old board having died or grown feeble. The members of the new board were C. P. Gearhart, George Unger, Frank L. Miles, Chas. P. Harder, Horace C. Blue, W. C. Davis, Edward Cuthbert, Wm. F. Gearhart and O. H. Ostrander. The officers chosen by the trustees, were O. H. Ostrander, President Frank L. Miles, Secretary and C. P. Gearhart, Treasurer, Edward Cuthbert was appointed Superintendent. The grounds were then cleaned up, the fences repaired and a tool house built. The treasurer dying in 1888 David R. Eckman was chosen trustee and treasurer, William Richart is the present superintendent. For the past 20 years the new organization have kept the grounds in the best of care, and on Memorial Day, no cemetery in the vicinity presents a more attractive appearance. Adjoining this cemetery George Unger, some years ago, laid out an addition of one half acre of ground for burial purposes.



SOUTH DANVILLE.

South Danville adjoins Riverside borough on the east, bounded on the south by the public road leading to Sunbury, on the north by the Susquehanna river and on the east by road leading across the river bridge to Danville containing about 55 acres. As early as the year 1866 an offer was made by Danville residents to the Herman Gearhart Heirs for ten acres of this land near the bridge, at 10000 dollars, which offer was refused by them; at this time the abundance of U. S. paper money had inflated the price of real estate in this vicinity to about 125 dollars an acre. In 1870 the laying out of Riverside the rapid selling of town lots and the putting up of buildings in that section, greatly advanced the value of adjoining farm lands, and several farms were sold for 250 dollars per acre. The Gearhart heirs who owned the land above described concluded to lay out the plot into town lots and sell the same, although they did not conform to the Riverside plan, making offsets and angles with those streets; their lots near the eastern boundary sold for exceptionally high prices, in some instances at the rate of 1000 dollars per acre. A large number of town lots were sold and a number of buildings erected between 1870 and 1873. In addition the heirs received over 2000 dollars from the railroad company for land damages on account of the right of way through their land. There still remain a considerable number of lots unsold after a lapse of 30 years, westward of the built up section, but in time, these will find a market at remunerative prices. The streets, running north and south are made to conform as nearly as possible to opposite streets in Danville, continuing their names. This section of land is situated in Gearhart township and is governed under township laws as provided by acts of assembly relating to townships of the Commonwealth Pop 350.



SOUTH DANVILLE SCHOOL BUILDING.

PUBLIC SCHOOLS.

In 1871 the Gearhart School District erected a one-story-brick school house on Dewart street at corner of Montour street to accommodate the wants of South Danville at a cost of 2500 dollars. The increase of population in this section made it necessary to enlarge the same, which was done in 1900 at an additional expense of 2200 dollars, and now affords instruction by a primary and grammar school graded system.

LIST OF TEACHERS EMPLOYED 1872-1906.

Alfred Marks,
C. P. Gearhart,
Miss Mame Hughes,
Miss Ella Wolf,
Miss M. C. Madden,
Miss Mollie Wetzel,
Amanda Gearhart,
Robert Russel,

J. B. Douglass,
Miss Jennie Pitner,
C. A. Gulick,
S. S. Smith,
Miss M. A. Pfahler,
Prudence Blizzard,
Miss Helen G. Leshner,
Blanche Campbell.



ST. PETERS M. E. CHURCH.

In 1878 the congregation of the M. E. Church, who had lost their old home in Riverside through a sheriffs sale were donated a piece of ground at N. W. corner of Gearhart and Logan streets by the heirs of Herman Gearhart, and went bravely to work to build for themselves a new home. The members of the mother church in Danville, assisting, a sufficient fund was subscribed to commence the building. The structure costing 4000 dollars was ready for occupancy in the early part of 1879. The dedication collections realized a sum that paid off every dollar of indebtedness, and this church organization under the pastorate of Rev. B. G. Welch renewed its christian work in the community with fresh hope and vigor. A belfry and steeple were added in 1886 and a fine toned bell later on; about 1894 Rev. I. H. Torrence presented the church with a lot in Riverside on Avenue G, at Ninth street for a parsonage which was built the same year and occupied for the first time, by Rev. Freeman S. Vought. The house cost 1800 dollars which was partly paid by voluntary contribution, the balance remaining on mortgage for several years, when the amount was finally cancelled, through the energetic efforts of the Ladies Aid Society. Later the main entrance was remodelled, interior redecorated and several beautiful stained glass memorial windows set in place.

PASTORATE.

| | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| 1873 A. S. Bowman, | 1884 N. H. Smith, |
| 1874 A. S. Bowman, | 1885 N. H. Smith, |
| 1875 Jos. T. Wilson, | 1886 John R. Milroy, |
| 1876 Jos. T. Wilson, | 1887 John R. Milroy, |
| 1877 Jos. T. Wilson, | 1888 G. H. Day, |
| 1878 } Benj. G. Welch, | 1889 G. H. Day, |
| 1879 } and others as supply | 1890 G. H. Day, |

1880 Benj. H. Moser,
1881 Daniel Hartman,
1882 Daniel Hartman,
1883 Daniel Hartman,
1894 C. M. Barnitz,
1896 C. M. Barnitz,
1897 F. S. Vought,
1899 F. S. Vought,
1901 R. J. Allen,
1903 R. J. Allen,
1905 E. T. Swartz.

1890 J. Wesley Glover,
1891 J. Wesley Glover,
1892 A. L. Miller,
1893 A. L. Miller,
1895 C. M. Barnitz,
1897 F. S. Vought,
1898 F. S. Vought,
1900 F. S. Vought,
1902 R. J. Allen,
1904 E. T. Swartz,
1906 E. T. Swartz.



INDUSTRIAL PURSUITS.

BLACKSMITH SHOP: The first shop was opened by Peter Berger, on Mill street, near the south entrance to river bridge as early as 1870. He continued in the business until 1875, when he leased to his brother Abram, who kept the place until 1904, when it was rented to Peter Ball, the present tenant.

WHEELWRIGHT SHOP: Was opened on Mill street, opposite the blacksmith shop, by Daniel Linn in 1873; later was occupied by Isaac Steinert who continued until 1902 when the place was closed.

LUMBER YARD &C: Riehl and Gulick established a depot for building materials and coal on Mill street near bridge in 1871 where they carried on the business until 1872.

STEAM FLOUR MILL: This industry was started in 1871 by Harvey B. Crane and Augustus Zehnder and was operated by them until 1874. From 1875 to 1879 Mitchell & Co., occupied the mill, when they sold the

same to John B. Laidacker who carried on a profitable business for 27 years. In 1906 Laidacker sold the property to the Mausdale Milling company.

COAL YARD &C: Established by E. J. Curtis & Co., in 1874 who were succeeded by Woddrop and Welch 1876 who conducted the business until 1881, when it was leased by Sam'l Bailey & Co., until 1890, when the property between Gearhart's Run and Mill street, railroad and river was sold to J. Hudson Kase, who is now carrying on a general mercantile trade in Coal, Hardware, Agricultural implements &c.

LIME KILN: Was operated by M. Q. Crane & Co., on Woddrop and Welch Coal Yard property in 1875.

CIGAR FACTORY: Was opened on Railroad street by Emanuel W. Young, 1894, who built up an extensive trade; discontinued manufacturing in 1899.

BARBER SHOPS: The first shop was kept by HARRY JONES in 1891, near the river bridge who sold out to JOHN RIFFEL by whom the place was conducted for two or three years. In 1896 he removed to Railroad street near Chestnut street and continued there until 1899. L. P. ORTH reopened the shop near the river bridge in 1898, where he still carries on the business.

UNGERS TIN SHOP: Is located on Snyderstown road near the Beer Storage Vault, was established by David Unger in 1888. Prior to this period a shop was conducted by George Freeze on Railroad street, near to Chestnut street, but closed some years ago.

BAUSCH BEER VAULT: Was constructed in 1871 by John Bausch, the brewer, of Danville, who stored the output of his brewery in this vault on Snyderstown road, for many years, but the place has been out of use for some time.

SUSQUEHANNA HOUSE: This commodious brick hotel was built by Michael Rosenstein in 1871, who was the landlord until 1891. Since that time the place has been kept by different parties until it was taken by Harvey Dietrich, the present proprietor, in 1901. Present owners are J. and A. Moeschlin, Sunbury, Pa.



PHYSICIAN.

DR. NELSON M. SMITH: Commenced practise in 1882 building an office on Sunbury road at Chestnut street which he has occupied for 24 years.



STORES.

| | |
|---|---------|
| ALEX. J. SOBER, Sunbury road, Mill Street, | 1871-4 |
| THEO W. CLAYTON, Sunbury road, Chestnut St., | 1882-4 |
| T. C. FOWLER, Sunbury road, Chestnut St., | 1885 |
| D. R. ECKMAN, Sunbury road, Mill St., | 1874-98 |
| C. S. SMITH, Sunbury road, Mill St., | 1898-06 |
| OSCAR W. KASE, Railroad St., near Mill St., | 1886-92 |
| J. HUDSON KASE, Mill St., Railroad | 1890-06 |
| RUFUS H. VASTINE, Railroad St., | 1903-06 |
| THEO. W. CLAYTON, Railroad St. near Hill St., | 1892-06 |



HOOVER PLANING MILL.

This mill was erected in 1901. It was owned by Eli Hoover, Oliver Hoover, Wallace Hooyer, John T. McCloughan and Chas. McCloughan who conducted the busi-

ness for several years, when Eli Hoover and McCloughan Bros , withdrew from the firm. The mill is fitted up with first class power and machinery and turns out all kinds of wood work. The business has steadily increased, having the monopoly of trade, as there is no other plant within 8 miles. In March 1906. Oliver O. Hoover sold out his interest to Wallace Hoover, who now operates the mill.



ICE CREAM PARLOR: At the corner of Gearhart and Factory streets, has been conducted for the past 10 years by Mrs. Geo. Edward Roat.





RIVERSIDE SCHOOL BUILDING.

HOUSES ERECTED.

1870-1874.

| NAMES. | LOCATION. |
|-----------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Robert S. McCoy, | Sunbury St., near Logan |
| Peter Berger, 1871 | Railroad and Mill St. |
| Fred Frisch, | Railroad St. |
| Andrew Druffner, 1st house (1871) | " |
| Michael Rosentine, 1871 | " |
| Rufus Vastine, 1871 | Gearhart St. |
| Rufus Vastine, | " |
| Judson Vastine, | " |
| B. K. Adams, | " |
| Harvey Kimbel, | " |
| C. Voris, | " |
| Henry Savidge, | " |
| Joseph Campbell, | " |
| Chas. Amerman, | " |
| Mrs. Russel, | " |
| John G. Heimbach, | " |
| Alfred Marks, | " |
| Eliza Bird, (Thos. Pensyl) | " |
| Simon Kepner, | Railroad St. |
| Michael Etter, | " |
| E. and M. Wench, | " |
| Ferd. Betters, | " |
| J. M. Geringer, | " |
| J. Gearhart, | " |
| L. Yordy, | " |
| Wm. H. Treas, | " |
| Fred Lynn, | " |
| John T. Oberdorf, | Mill St. |
| Patrick Brady, | Dewart St. |
| Jacob Hummer, | " |
| Fred. De Freeze, | " |

| | |
|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Mrs. Wagner, | " |
| William Nuss, | " |
| John Artley, | " |
| J. F. Krell, | Railroad St. |
| Henry Yeager, | " |
| Alex. G. Sober, | Sunbury and Mill Sts. |
| Simon S. Boyer, | Sunbury and Chestnut Sts. |
| (36 Houses) | |

1874-1906.

| NAMES. | LOCATION. |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Thos. Adams, | Gearhart St. |
| Wm. M. Hoagland, | Dewart St. |
| Sarah Phillips, | " |
| Patrick Brady Jr., | " |
| David Rockafeller, | Sunbury St., and Alley |
| David R. Eckman, | Sunbury and Factory St. |
| Dallas Hummer, | Dewart St. |
| Arthur Myerly, | Gearhart St. |
| Rufus Vastine, Store | Railroad St. |
| Wm. R. Welliver, | Sunbury Road |
| Est. Douw Metler, | Sunbury and Factory Sts. |
| Minner F. Gulick, | Sunbury and Chestnut Sts. |
| J. Hudson Kase, | Sunbury and Factory Sts. |
| Theo. Robison, | " |
| N. M. Smith, M. D., office | " Factory Sts. |
| Theo. W. Clayton, House and store | " |
| Chas. Amerman, | Railroad St. |
| Oscar W. Kase, | Railroad St. |
| John Super, | Gearhart St. |
| Wm. L. Clark, | Gearhart and Factory Sts. |
| Oliver Hoover, | Gearhart St. |
| Wellington Cleaver, | Gearhart and Chestnut Sts. |
| Chas. Houghawont, | " |

John Treas,
Wesley Pegg,
John Murphy,
Samuel Hummer,
C. S. Smith,
Alex. Dimmick,
Patrick Brady Jr.,
(30 Houses)

Gearhart and Chestnut Sts.
Gearhart St.
Gearhart and Logan Sts.
Gearhart St.
Railroad St.
Wall and Logan Sts.
Snydertown Road.



FARMER CITIZENS.

Among those who have been attracted to Riverside and vicinity as a pleasing and comfortable abiding place, in which to pass their declining years may be mentioned.

Caleb F. Persing,
Ulam Hoffman,
J. H. Kase,
Chas. W. Kase,
Hugh J. Vastine,
Harrison Kase,
Samuel Reeder,
C. P. Gearhart,
John Conway,
Elias Woodruff,
Wm. Mutchler,
Sam'l Morrall,

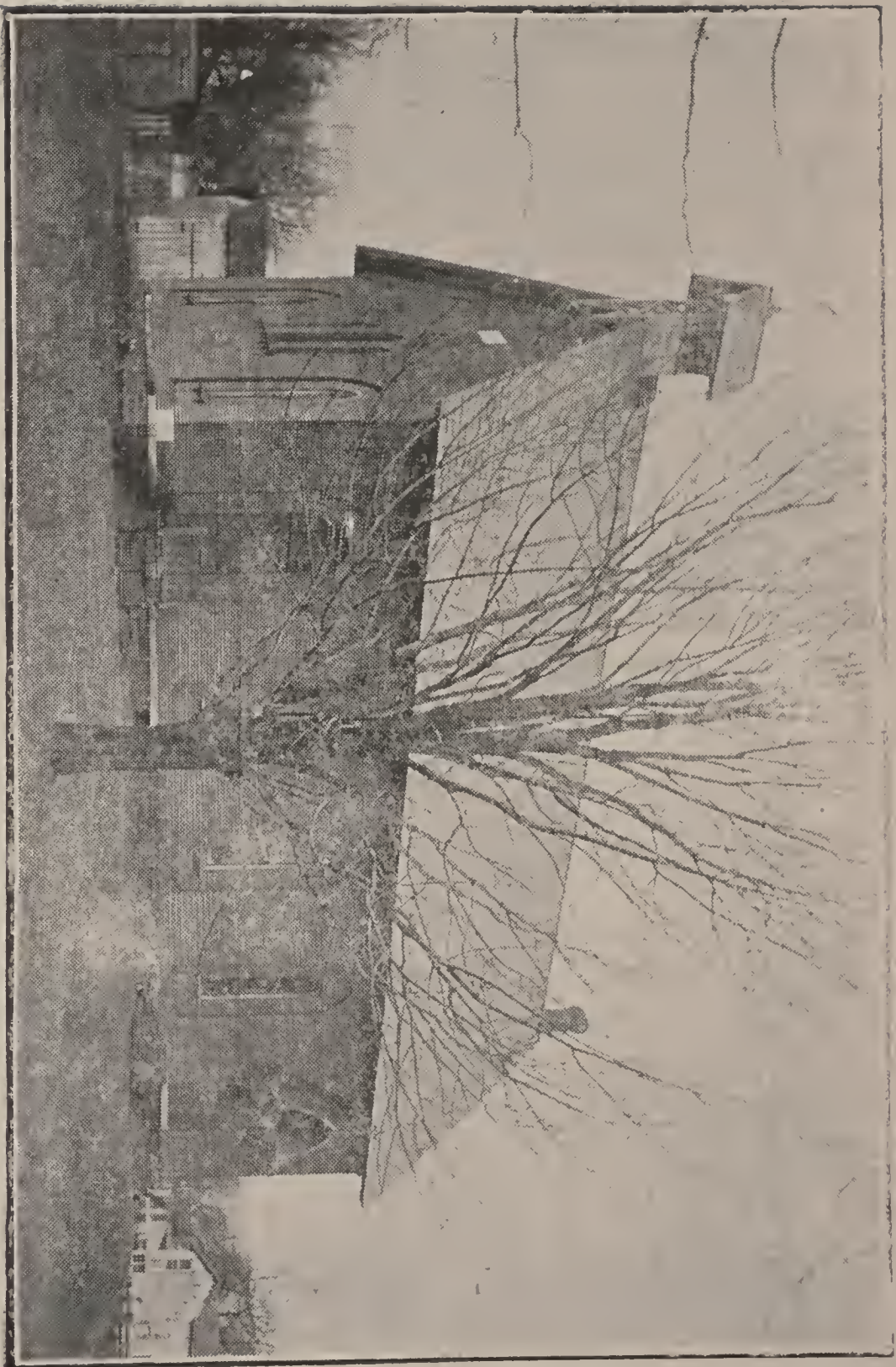
Isaac Hoffman,
Solomon Pensyl,
William Metler,
Edward Grady,
Wm. DeWitt,
Samuel Gulick,
Chas. D. Houghawont,
Theo. W. Kimbel,
Wellington Cleaver,
Joseph Woodruff,
Wm. Kimbel,
L. D. Metler,

P. F. Startzel.

Many of these have erected handsome residences. It may not be amiss to say that the farmer citizens with their quiet practical ways have contributed greatly to the growth and prosperity of this community.

RESIDENCES.

Most of the dwelling houses in Riverside and South Danville, have been built on the cottage plan, costing from 1500 to 2500 dollars and are surrounded by fruit and ornamental trees, lawns and shrubbery: the grounds are generally well kept and present a neat, tasteful and home-like appearance. In Riverside under a wise provision of those who laid out the place, the grantees were required to keep the front line of all buildings 20 feet back from the Avenues, thus creating a broad vista of 100 feet in width between the houses. A few private residences were erected at considerable expense: the commodious French roof mansion on Avenue F, near Sixth street, now owned by Abner P. Pitner was built by Benj. G. Welch and Joel S. Bailey in 1871 at a cost of 9000 dollars. The Swiss Cottage on Avenue D, at Fifth street, owned by Wm. T. Shepperson, erected by Orleans Longacre in 1871, cost 5500 dollars, and the "brown stone front" brick house on the same Avenue near Sixth street, built by the Matthewson Bros., Scotch stone cutters in 1874, now the property of John J. Kutz cost 6000 dollars: the cottage home of F. P. Startzel on Sunbury street at Avenue H, costing over 3000 dollars: the residence of Hon. H. M. Hinckley on the same street near Avenue G, over 4000 dollars and the large brick mansion belonging to Est. Agnes Gearhart, on Sunbury street and Avenue H, costing 4600 dollars when erected in 1872, also the brick residence on Avenue F, at Third street, built by Rev. Gideon H. Day, lately purchased by Frank Armes, costing 3500 dollars. In South Danville there are a number of fine residences costing from 3500 to 5000 dollars, among which may be noted those of Harrison Kase, Hugh J. Vastine, Wm. L. Clark, David R. Eckman, J. H. Kase, Est. Sam'l Gulick, J. Warren Robison, Minner F. Gulick, W. W. Gulick, Chas. D. Houghawont and Est. of Lorenzo D. Metler.



FIRST M. E. CHURCH, NOW GRACE P. E. CHURCH.

THE BOARD OF TRADE.

This association of citizens was organized in 1890 for the purpose of inducing parties at a distance to locate industries in Riverside and South Danville. Through their efforts, Hoover Bros., moved their planing mill from Snyderstown in 1891 and purchased ground from J. H. Kase, near the river bridge. They soon built up a prosperous trade and have become an important industry, in this section: about the same time, funds were raised by citizens and a Novelty Works established on Railroad street, near the river. The principal products manufactured were patent washboards and cash registers. The management was under the charge of the patentee, W. R. VanVliet, from Stroudsburg Pa., and was in operation a little more than a year when the inefficiency of the manager, dissatisfied the stockholders of the company who closed out the business. The loss on their investments was 85 per cent. of the capital subscribed. Since this misventure the Board of Trade have ceased to keep up their organization.



IN MEMORIAM.

Of those who occupied and tilled the land on the "south side" between Blue Hill and Kipp's Run, when Riverside and South Danville were first settled in 1869 and who have passed away to that "boarne from whence no traveler returns" are:

Abram Burger,
Jacob Snyder,
John Oberdorf,
Jacob Gearhart,
Peter Gearhart,
Wm. F. Gearhart,
Chas. P. Gearhart,
Francis G. VanNorstran,
Wm. D. Gearhart,
William Faux,
Peter Mowrer,
Wilson M. Gearhart.

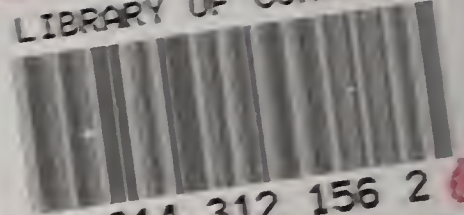
Samuel Gulick,
Samuel Stroh,
Charles Carr.
Abner Pitner,
Alem Sechler,
J. Cooper Richart,
Chas. Houghawont.
William Depew,
Jasper Metler,
George Unger,
Samuel Gillinger.
Irvin H. Torrence.

one only is still in the land of the living John W. Mowrer, who now resides in Danville. Of those who occupied homes in Riverside and South Danville, 74 citizens have died, and counting all, men, women and children, more than 250 souls have passed away into another world, within a period of 40 years.



JUL 18 1908

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS



0 014 312 156 2